

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUJUMB 00662 271234 Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 IGA-02 MC-02 EB-11 IO-13 RSR-01 /157 W
----- 063642

R 271200 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3868

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUJUMBURA 0662

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BY, BE

SUBJECT: BELGIAN/ BURUNDI RELATIONS

REF BUJUMBURA 504

1. IN TWO RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH AMBASSADOR, PASCAL KASHIRAHOMWE (DIRECTOR OF BANQUE COMMERCIAL DU BURUNDI AND CLOSE ADVISER TO PRESIDENT MICOMBERO) HAS BECOME QUITE EMOTIONAL ON SUBJECT OF BELGIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD BURUNDI. EXPRESSED PARTICULAR RESENTMENT OF ARMS DELIVERIES TO RWANDA (BRUSSELS 3069) WHICH HE SAYS MADE ESPECIALLY GALLING TO GRB BY GOB REFUSAL TO PERMIT BURUNDI ARMY TO PURCHASE WEAPONS, EVEN TO HONOR PRE- EVENTS COMMITMENTS.

2. INABILITY LAST WEEK OF RESPONSIBLE BELGIAN OFFICIALS TO RECEIVE BURUNDI MINISTER OF EDUCATION BIMAZUBUTE WHEN HE WENT TO BRUSSELS HAS DEEPENED SPLIT. BY NO MEANS CLEAR FROM HERE WHERE FAULT LAY, AND ASSUME MISUNDERSTANDING BEING EXPLAINED, BUT WE HEAR THAT ESTABLISHMENT HAS AT THIS POINT LARGELY CONCLUDED THAT DELIBERATE INSULT WAS INTENDED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUJUMB 00662 271234 Z

3. LOCAL BELGIANS ALSO INDICATING CONCERN AT TREND OF RELATIONS. UNDERSTAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAS SENT TELEGRAM TO BRUSSELS URGING RETENTION BELGIAN MILITARY ADVISORY PRESENCE AS GESTURE NEEDED IN MAINTAINING OVERALL BELGIAN PRESENCE AND PROTECTING BELGIAN INTERESTS. OTHER FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN ALSO VOICING THOUGHTS ABOUT LEAVING IN EVENT FINAL LINK TO POLITICAL DISCIPLINE OF MILITARY, AS THEY TEND TO THINK OF IT, IS BROKEN.

4. AGREEMENT WAS GRANTED NEW BELGIAN AMBASSADOR JUNE 18. COUNSELOR DE WILDE LEAVING SHORTLY, POSSIBLY BEFORE ARRIVAL AMBASSADOR.

5. COMMENT: KASHIRAHOMWE HAS REPUTATION OF BEING PRO-WESTERN AND EVEN, AS HE SAYS, PRO-BELGIAN. HIS BITTERNESS IS REAL AND SEEMS TO REFLECT STRONG FEELING IN BURUNDI ESTABLISHMENT, PROBABLY INCLUDING PRESIDENT. VARYING TENSIONS HAVE EXISTED BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS SINCE REACTION TO EVENTS OF LAST YEAR, BUT RWANDAN ARMS ISSUE AND INCIDENTS SUCH AS THE BUMAZUBUTE ONE ARE EXACERBATING FEELINGS ALREADY ON EDGE AS RESULT DECISION WITHDRAW MILITARY ADVISERS AND UNCERTAINTY BELGIAN ACTION IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FIELD. IN ADDITION POLICY ISSUES, IT APPEARS NEW AMBASSADOR WILL HAVE CONSIDERABLE SMOOTHING OF PERSONAL RELATIONS TO DO.
YOST

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUJUMB00662
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BUJUMBURA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730628/aaaajnpq.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BUJUMBURA 504
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Oct-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <01-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980225
Subject: BELGIAN/ BURUNDI RELATIONS REF BUJUMBURA 504
TAGS: PFOR, BE, BY
To: AF
BRUSSELS
KIGALI
KINSHASA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

